

### Rafiki Africa Ministries

Providing hope and love through Jesus Christ

**June 2013 Newsletter** 

Website: <u>www.rafikiministries.org</u> Blog: rafikiministries.blogspot.com

#### "Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth." 1 John 3:18

## **Holiday Time for the Kids Means Lots of FUN!**



The kids have been on holiday for the entire month of May, which means lots of fun playtime! All of the kids did well in their first school term of the year. Oscar was at the top of his class in 1st grade. Go Oscar! The kids have had a good break this month and are excited to go back to school to see their friends.

It is amazing to hear the laughter of children and experience their joy. I had so much fun this past month I felt like a kid again. Most of the time, we stayed at home and just let the kids play, or did activities planned by the missionaries. We've had days this month without power and water, but we've enjoyed dinners, games, and Bible stories by lantern light. We took the kids on a couple of special outings, a day at the swimming pool and playground, and another day we all dressed in our Rafiki T-Shirts and went to play on the playscape at a shopping center. A man at

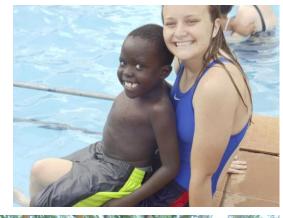
the shopping center painted the kid's faces. That was a new experience for them! I think the staff and missionaries had as much fun as the kids climbing and playing. It was fun to see everyone being active and enjoying themselves. ~ Sara



















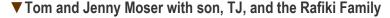
# Rafiki Outreach Ministries Message from Tom and Jenny Moser!

We came to Uganda the first time in Fall 2012, and witnessed firsthand the incredible need and suffering in the country. We felt we needed to return for a much longer stay, and do what we could in obedience to God's calling. In March we returned to Uganda for a 3-month stay, this time with our 12-year-old son, TJ.

On Mondays Rafiki missionaries volunteer at two different outreaches, Sanyu Babies Home and A Perfect Injustice (API). Sanyu Babies Home is one of the oldest babies homes here in Uganda. You will find yourself folding clothes, washing dishes, sorting beans and (our personal favorite) holding babies and toddlers. Around feeding time we all pile in the feeding room and grab a hot bowl of rice or potatoes and start feeding tiny babies to toddlers. Then after milk bottles for the small ones we change diapers and outfits and get them ready for naptime. Sometimes you find a baby that touches your heart and you can't bear to let go so you do what your heart tells you and you hold on to that baby, lavishing him or her with kisses and hugs and soft whispers in the ear.

At our second ministry, A Perfect Injustice, we spend the afternoon in a slum area in Kampala. We work with street boys that are destitute, have no place to call their own and are hungry most the time. Without shoes or clean clothes these boys seem remarkably full of joy. I think the Uncles who serve at this ministry have a hold on them and they feel loved; their love for the boys covers a multitude of voids. It breaks your heart to see these boys so dirty, hungry, thirsty and lacking parents. However, the glimmer of hope runs deep when you see them every week, eager to give hugs and hold hands with us. Their love is apparent and their need is so big. All you can do is give what you have, show the love of Jesus and pray God's plan and blessing on them all. We are working to build relationships with them through sharing Bible lessons, games, and a hot meal. The daily struggles these boys face - some as young as 8 years old- is almost unimaginable by American standards. Our son, TJ, was deeply touched by this, and will certainly remember this the rest of his life.

We feel that God is moving in Uganda, and feel very fortunate that He has allowed us to be a small part of this work. Coming to Africa is life changing. You cannot walk away from here and not be forever changed in your heart and attitude about the peoples of Uganda. There is so much to do, so many mouths to feed, so many hearts to touch with the love of the Lord.





### Father's Day is Just around the Corner!

I am truly blessed to have been brought up by parents that have faith in the Lord. My earthly father set for me a good Biblical example. The children we serve do not have fathers but God is the ultimate "father to the fatherless". We have the opportunity to train and teach the great truths of the Bible to these children. The Bible says, "For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, encouraging, comforting, and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into His kingdom and glory" (1 Thessalonians 2:11-12).

Godly parents stand for the truth of God and they live it with humility and grace. They instill the fear and love of God in their children early on. Their awe and respect of God inspires their children to do the same. Parents guide their children in how they will walk with Christ in the future. As parents to this fatherless generation, we want to set an example for the children that we serve. We want to set an example by our actions and words. We want the children to see us trust God, pray, love, forgive, do the right things, and give generously to others. We want to be models of faithfulness.

Please pray for us as we serve these hurting and fatherless children. Our deep desire is to pass on sincere faith in the Lord. It is our goal that sincere faith will be passed on from one generation to another. Pray for us as we strive to exemplify the fruits of the Spirit – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23). Appreciate and honor your parents and especially your father this month! © Praise God for giving you a loving earthly father as well as an amazing Heavenly Father who is the Father to the Fatherless. ~Sara

#### **New Washing Machine – Praise God!**



Thank you to Jim and Pat Sessions (Sara's awesome grandparents) who donated the money we needed to buy a new washing machine. Everyone at the Children's Home is so excited to have a larger washing machine that has the capacity to wash heavy duty loads such as bedding and towels. It is such a blessing to have TWO washing machines!

Moses Kiyaga (Rafiki Staff) Washing Clothes in the New Machine



#### Ways YOU can pray for us this month -

- ➤ Pray for Joseph and Sara as they are expecting a new addition to their family! Sara will be having a C-section on June 6<sup>th</sup>. Please pray for good health for Mom and baby, for wisdom for the medical staff and doctor who will deliver the baby in Uganda.
- Praise for our short-term missionaries as they have arrived safely in Uganda June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Pray against homesickness and that they will feel comfortable in their home in Uganda. Continue to pray for them as they serve with us this summer. Pray that people will come to know Christ's love through their words and actions!
- Pray for our long-term missionaries. We have missionaries that will be serving with us for the entire year of 2013. Pray for strength and for God to speak through them as they minister to the children, the people of Uganda and as they share their experiences when they return home. Pray for their safety, for good health, and that they will adapt quickly and learn the Ugandan culture.
- Praise God for the opportunities He has given Rafiki Africa Ministries to reach outside of the Rafiki Orphanage and to meet needs of the destitute in Uganda. Pray that lives will be saved and that God will be glorified.

- ➤ Pray for God's protection from evil and illness for Rafiki Africa Ministries, the directors, staff, missionaries, volunteers, sponsors, and children.
- Pray for the Rafiki kids...that they will all come to know Christ as their personal Savior and Lord.
- Pray for God's guidance in raising the children to be godly adults, for direction for the Ministry.
- Pray for and Praise God for his continuous provision.
- Praise God for our sponsors and contributors who have been inspired by God to give of their time, resources, money, and talents. Pray that we will be good stewards of all that is given to us.
- "In all things give thanks". 1st Thessalonians 5:88

#### Ways YOU can support the ministry –

- **PRAY** for the ministry and orphans in Uganda. "Brothers and sisters, pray for us." (1 Thessalonians 5:25)
- **GIVE** financially. 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 8:3-4 says, "For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people."
- **SERVE** on the mission field and come to Uganda. We are in desperate need of teachers, childcare workers, nurses, etc. We can use anyone. "We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully." (Romans 12:6-8)
- **CONNECT** the ministry with local churches, rotary clubs, schools, businesses, etc. Connect us with your friends and family. Joseph and I will be back in Texas at the beginning of October till the end of the year. Please email me at <a href="mailto:sarainafrica@yahoo.com">sarainafrica@yahoo.com</a> if you are interested in arranging a speaking engagement.
- SPEAK UP and tell their story. What a simple way of obeying God's instruction to us about the poor...simply tell their story. Proverbs 31:8-9 says "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy."

#### Thank you to EVERYONE who has been so generous in supporting us!

#### God Bless You!

Joseph and Sara Kiwanuka
Directors and Founders of Rafiki Africa Ministries

#### Please Give by Sponsoring A Life

Prayerfully consider making a one-time donation or become a monthly sponsor. You can sponsor a child for only \$35 per month OR any amount you wish. Every little bit helps keep Rafiki Africa Home running. We are currently providing a home for 13 children (listed from youngest to oldest) Emma, Carol, Don, Jerom, Annet, Esther, Oscar, Fauziya, Joel, Brenda, Cocus, Mary, and Joshua. When you decide to sponsor a child you will be helping take care of their needs by paying for their shelter, medical needs, food, clothes, and education. Prayerfully consider sponsoring one of these children as a family or as an individual. If you decide to sponsor a child please notify me by email: <a href="mailto:sara@rafikiministries.org">sara@rafikiministries.org</a>

#### Donate through <u>PayPal</u> using the link on our website → <u>www.rafikiministries.org</u>

Please mail checks to: Rafiki Africa Ministries

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Pflugerville, TX 78691-3526

We are a non-profit organization in the State of Texas. 100% of money raised goes to helping orphaned and destitute children in Uganda. Rafiki is classified as a 501©3 charity and contributions to Rafiki are tax deductible under Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) of the tax code. Rafiki is qualified to receive tax-deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the code. This exemption is retroactive from the date of filing the 501©3. For further clarification, **contact Frank Hamilton at (512) 771-0681 (USA)** If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply to this message with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.